

U.S. Department of Justice

Terrence Berg United States Attorney Eastern District of Michigan

Suite 2001 211 West Fort Street Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

Nov 20, 2008

EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: Stephanie Head

DETROIT WOMAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS FOR CHILD PROSTITUTION RING

Defendant, a.k.a. "Chocolate," Was Lead Prostitute In Motor City Mink Organization

A Detroit woman who helped run a nation-wide Internet child prostitution network was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in federal court today, Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced. Berg was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Detroit field office.

Stephanie Head, a/k/a "Chocolate," 23, of Detroit, pleaded guilty to distributing child pornography before United States District Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff on July 10, 2008. In October, Head testified at the trial of co-defendant Robert Daniels, a/k/a "Motor City Mink", 28. Head admitted that she solicited and trained minors as young as 15 to engage in prostitution, took sexually explicit photographs of them, posted those pictures to the Internet as advertisements for prostitution, and collected money from the juveniles after they completed

sex acts.

Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg said, "This defendant ran the day-to-day operations of a nation-wide child prostitution ring, leading to the exploitation and victimization of dozens of young women and girls. In view of such a crime, a lengthy prison sentence such as this is guite appropriate."

"We remain dedicated to protecting children and putting unrelenting pressure on these criminal groups," Arena added.

Between February 2005 and March 2008, the Motor City Mink organization included as many as 100 adult and minor prostitutes. More than 2,800 advertisements for prostitution were posted on craigslist.org and other websites nationwide. Daniels and Head transported minor and adult prostitutes to Washington, D.C., College Park, Maryland, Indianapolis, Chicago, and New York.

Locally, Daniels and Head rented hotel rooms in Southfield and in Farmington Hills.

The rooms were provided for minors and adults to perform sex acts for money.

Daniels was convicted following a week-long trial on October 24, 2008 of eight-counts related to the prostitution network. He is scheduled to be sentenced on January 27, 2009, at 10 a.m., when he will face a mandatory minimum of 20 years and up to life imprisonment.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate,

apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Leonid Feller and John N. O'Brien II.